



Map & Compass for All Ages

Working with maps and compasses provides girls with many valuable learning experiences. Age appropriate activities allow them to develop their navigational skills while being challenged, but still having fun. The key to success in this area is explaining the basic concepts clearly, and repeating them often with a variety of games and activities.

Sparks

- ✿ Learn the four cardinal directions (North, South, East, and West)
- ✿ Demonstrate using a compass to find north.
- ✿ Use a picture-based map in a treasure hunt.
- ✿ Follow a trail marked with pictures or ribbons. Make sure each marker is clearly visible from the one before.

Brownies

- ✿ Practise the four cardinal directions, and add the four secondary points (NE, SE, SW, NW)
- ✿ Find the four cardinal directions using a compass.
- ✿ Create a picture-based map of a small area, such as a room or yard.
- ✿ Follow a marked trail using a compass to find North, South, East, and West. Trail markers should be within 30-50 feet of the previous mark, without obstacles in between but do not need to be visible from the previous station.

Guides

- ✿ Learn to set a compass and follow a given bearing.
- ✿ Practise sighting on a distant object.
- ✿ Follow a pre-set trail using a compass (e.g. Walk 23 paces at a bearing of 117 degrees). The trail should be fairly simple, without obstacles between stations, to prevent the need for sighting on intermediate objects.

Pathfinders

- ✿ Use a compass in combination with a map to determine bearings.
- ✿ Follow more complex trails requiring intermediate sights or maps.
- ✿ Create simple trails for younger girls to follow.
- ✿ Draw simple maps for Brownies or Sparks.